Remarks

Applicants' previously pending application was unintentionally abandoned. Applicants have filed a petition to revive that application pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.137(b). As a response to the then-pending Office Action, Applicants have also filed a continuation application.

At the time of the unintentional abandonment, the then-pending application contained claims
1-14 and 17-26. The highest numbered previous claim (now canceled) was claim 30.

By this Preliminary Amendment, Applicants cancel claims 1-14 and 17-26. The new claims added by this amendment correspond to these claims, with the addition of one claim that has not been presented before. Thus, new claims 31-44 correspond to previously pending claims 1-14. New claims 45-54 correspond to previously pending claims 17-26. Claim 55 is newly presented for examination.

Applicants have requested an interview with the Examiner, the interview scheduled to take place on October 17, 2001.

Applicants respectfully request entry of the foregoing amendment, and consideration of the new claims set forth herein.

Respectfully submitted,

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4 October 2001